

Western Nebraska IN FOCUS Photo Contest

Capture the Heart of Western Nebraska. Share the Beauty, Show Your Pride & WIN!

About the Contest

- **Purpose:** Capture the beauty, community, and economic vitality of Western Nebraska.
- **Who Can Enter:** Amateur and professional photographers of all ages and locations.
- **Why Enter:** Share your unique perspective, win prizes, and contribute to promoting our region.

Categories

- **Theme:** Highlighting Community and Economic Growth in Western Nebraska
- **Categories:**
 - **"Investing in Dreams: Western Nebraska's Entrepreneurs" - "The Innovator's Eye" Award:** Capture the spirit of local businesses, showcasing the drive, innovation, and success of entrepreneurs.
 - *Examples:* Bustling storefronts, people working in shops, innovative startups, co-working spaces.
 - **"Nebraska Grit: The Working Spirit" - "The Heartland Hands" Award:** Celebrate the hardworking individuals who power the Western Nebraska economy across diverse sectors.
 - *Examples:* People working in healthcare, manufacturing, agriculture, education, construction, tourism; training programs, apprenticeships, and scenes of collaboration.
 - **"Adventure Awaits: Western Nebraska's Wonders" - "The Scenic Frontier" Award:** Highlight the vibrant tourism and outdoor recreation sectors.
 - *Examples:* Popular tourist destinations, outdoor activities (hiking, biking, fishing, camping), scenic landscapes, events, and festivals.
 - **"Community & Charm: Portraits of Western Nebraska" - "The Hometown Heart" Award:** Celebrate the heart and soul of Western Nebraska communities, capturing the unique spirit and warmth of rural life.

- *Examples:* County fairs, local festivals, parades, community events, sporting events, town celebrations, everyday moments showcasing community spirit.

Prizes

- **Grand Champion: "The Spirit of Western Nebraska" Award**
 - \$100 Gift Card to a Premier Local Business
 - Custom-Designed Commemorative Award featuring the winning photo
 - Prominent Feature on Twin Cities Development Social Media & Website
- **Category Winners: "Western Nebraska Lens" Awards**
 - \$50 Gift Card to a Valued Local Business
 - Commemorative Award showcasing the winning photo
 - Feature on Twin Cities Development Social Media
- **Honorable Mentions: "Western Nebraska Moments" Recognition**
 - Digital Certificate of Recognition
 - Social Media Spotlight
- **People's Choice Award: "Western Nebraska's Favorite View"**
 - \$50 Gift Card to a Popular Local Business
 - Commemorative Award
 - Social Media Feature
 - Public voting via Twin Cities Development social media platforms

How to Enter

- **Eligibility:** Open to all photographers, regardless of skill level, age, or location.
- **Submission:**
 - **Dates:** Contest Opens: March 4th, 2025, Deadline: April 11th, 2025
 - **Platform:** Submit online
 - **Requirements:**
 - High-resolution JPEG files (minimum 5MB)
 - No watermarks or added text

- Maximum two entries per category
- Complete the Photo Contest Entry and Release Form (minors need parental signature)
- **Photo Usage: * Copyright and License:** * Participants retain copyright of their submitted photographs. * Participants grant Twin Cities Development and its designated partners (including, but not limited to, local chambers of commerce, tourism bureaus, and participating businesses) a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, worldwide, non-exclusive license to use, reproduce, modify, publish, distribute, and display the submitted photographs in any and all media, whether now known or hereafter created, for any purpose related to the promotion and development of Western Nebraska. This includes but is not limited to: * Marketing and promotional materials (print and digital) * Websites and social media platforms * Reports, presentations, and publications * Any other use that Twin Cities Development deems appropriate.
 - **Photo Credit:** * Initial Recognition: Twin Cities Development will prominently credit photographers for their winning photos when announcing contest results and during any initial exhibitions or features.
 - Ongoing Use: While Twin Cities Development will make reasonable efforts to credit photographers whenever feasible, participants understand that ongoing photo credit may not always be possible in all marketing and promotional materials, especially in formats with limited space or where design considerations preclude it.
 - **Release:** Participants release Twin Cities Development and its partners from any and all claims, demands, and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the use of the submitted photographs.
 - **Partner Usage:** Participants understand that Twin Cities Development may share submitted photos with its partners for the partners' own promotional use related to the promotion of western Nebraska.

Judging and Timeline

- **Judging:** Photos will be judged on relevance, composition, creativity, and impact.
- **Timeline:**
 - People's Choice Voting: April 14th-17th, 2025
 - Winner Announcement: April 18th, 2025

Spread the Word!

- Follow us on social media: [social media handles]
- Use the hashtags: #WesternNebraskaInFocus #PictureWesternNebraska
- Tell your friends and fellow photographers!

Questions?

- Contact us at rrebman@gmail.com